



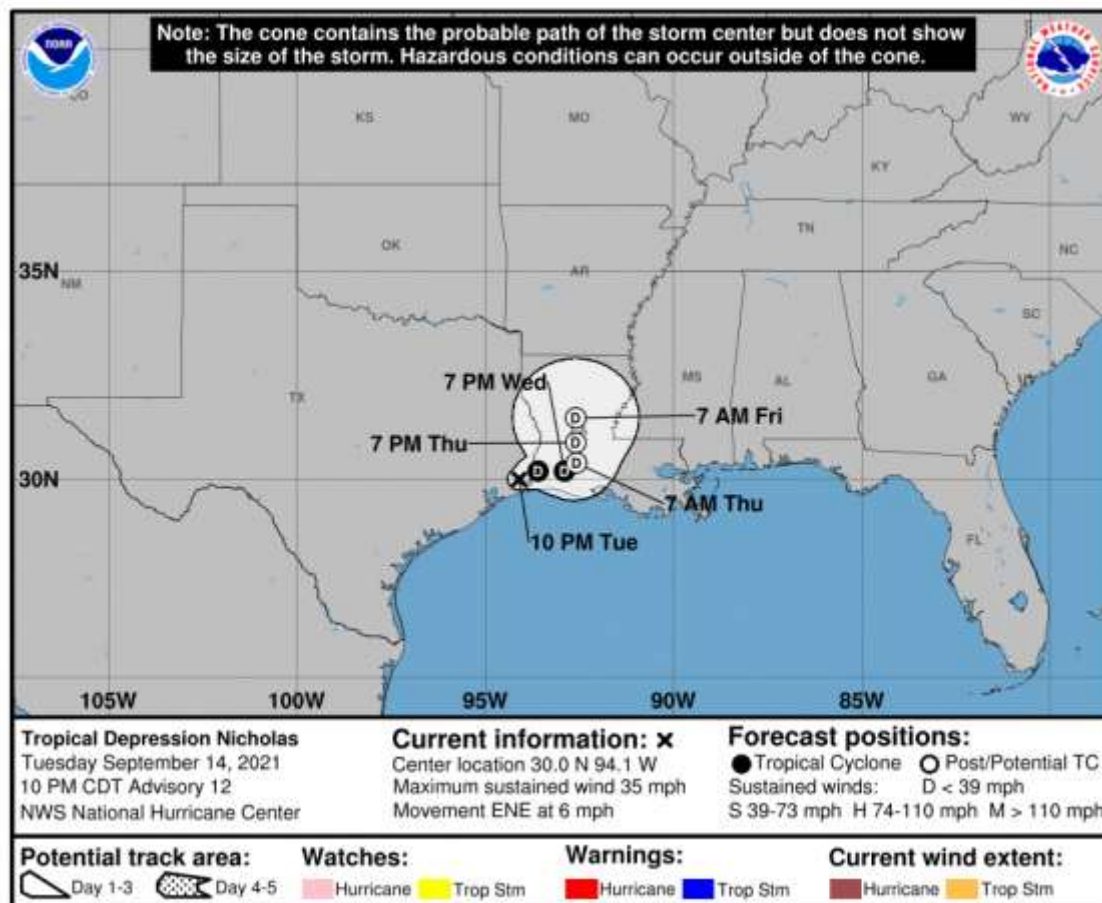
Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

New Information in Blue Text

Event Name	21-0018 - Tropical Storm Nicholas
Date	September 15, 2021
Time	0900
Operational Period	September 14, 2021 – September 15, 2021
Report Number	4

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	2, 3 & 6
DDCs Active	15, 16, 17, 20, 21

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION: Tropical Depression Nicholas has supplied copious amounts of rainfall to the central Gulf Coast. The storm surge inundation along the upper Texas coast has diminished. Life-threatening flash floods are expected across portions of the deep south during the next couple of days. Wind gusts up to Tropical Storm force winds are possible along coastal regions as well. Tropical Storm Nicholas is moving slowly across extreme southeastern Texas.



On September 14, Governor Greg Abbott updated the action that Texas is taking to help communities respond to Hurricane Nicholas. To accelerate the response, the Governor temporarily waived the limit on commercial drivers' hours of service and the oversize and overweight permitting requirements.

Governor Abbott also added Liberty and Wharton counties to the disaster declaration issued September 13.

On September 13, The Governor issued a state disaster declaration in response to Tropical Storm Nicholas for 17 counties. Counties included in the state disaster declaration are Aransas, Brazoria, Calhoun, Chambers, Galveston, Harris, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Matagorda, Montgomery, Newton, Nueces, Orange, Refugio, San Patricio, and Victoria. The State will add additional counties as needs are identified.

On September 12, in response to severe weather threats along the Texas Gulf Coast due to Tropical Storm Nicholas, Governor Abbott ordered the Texas State Operations Center (SOC) to increase its readiness to Level II (Escalated Response) beginning September 13, at 9:00 a.m. central. The SOC will operate at Level II to coordinate the state's response in support of local

officials. Tropical Storm Nicholas is forecast to begin impacting the Texas coast tomorrow.

Tropical Storm Nicholas is expected to bring significant rainfall and flooding to the entire Gulf Coast as it moves slowly across the state. The Governor urges Texans to prepare now, pay close attention to their local forecasts, and heed all warnings of local officials.

On September 11, the Governor activated resources to assist local communities impacted by this storm. The following resources have been activated:

- Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (Texas A&M Task Force One): Swift Water Rescue Boat squads and overhead packages.
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department: Game Warden Boat Teams.
- Texas Military Department: Ground Transportation Platoons with High Profile Vehicles and helicopters with hoist capability.
- Texas Department of State Health Services: Texas Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Severe Weather Packages.
- Texas Department of Public Safety: Texas Highway Patrol (ESF 13) Search and Rescue Aircraft and The Tactical Marine Unit.
- Texas A&M Forest Service: Saw Crews and Incident Management Teams.
- Texas Department of Transportation: Monitoring Road Conditions and Prepositioned Water-Filled Barriers.
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Health and Human Services
- Public Utility Commission: Power Outage Monitoring and Coordination with Utility Providers.
- Texas Division of Emergency Management State Shelter and Mass Care

Texans are urged to follow these flood preparedness and safety tips during severe weather events:

- Know types of flood risk in your area. Visit FEMA's Flood Map Service Center for information here: <https://msc.fema.gov/portal/home>
- Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.
- Build an emergency supply kit. For more information on how to build a kit, visit: <https://www.ready.gov/kit>
- Keep important documents in a waterproof container. Create password-protected digital copies.
- Protect your property. Move valuables to higher levels. Declutter drains and gutters. Install check valves. Consider a sump pump with a battery.

- Be extremely cautious of any water on roads or in creeks, streams, storm drains, or other areas – never attempt to cross flowing streams or drive across flooded roadways and always observe road barricades placed for your protection. Remember, Turn Around Don't Drown.

For more flood safety tips, visit gov.texas.gov/hurricane.

Texans can also visit www.TexasFlood.org for resources and tips on how to stay safe during flood events.

OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)

DDC 14 – Lufkin (Includes: Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity and Tyler Counties)

Newton County: Newton County Submitted a Disaster Declaration.

DDC 15 – Beaumont (Includes: Hardin, Jefferson, Jasper and Orange Counties)

[DDEOC Beaumont has decreased to Level III-Increased Readiness for Hurricane/Tropical Storm Nicholas at 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.](#)

Jasper County: Jasper County EOC is at Level III. Jasper County has submitted a Disaster Declaration.

Jefferson County: Jefferson County has submitted a Disaster Declaration.

[Two assisted living centers were evacuated. The Sheridan living center evacuated 5 residents and the Griffin living center evacuated 6 residents.](#)

Orange County: Has Submitted a Disaster Declaration. The city of Port Arthur has submitted a Disaster Declaration.

Chambers County: Has Submitted a Disaster Declaration

DDC 16A - Houston (Includes: Chambers and Harris Counties)

Harris County: Jersey Village and West University Place submitted a Disaster Declarations.

DDC 16B – Texas City (Includes: Brazoria and Galveston Counties)

Galveston County: Submitted a Disaster Declaration

Brazoria County: Cities of Angleton, Brazoria, Clute, Jones Creek and Lake Jackson have submitted Disaster Declarations.

Galveston County: Cities of Galveston and Santa Fe have submitted Disaster Declarations.

DDC 16C – Conroe (Includes: Liberty, Montgomery and Walker Counties)

Liberty County: Liberty County and the city of Devers have both submitted Disaster Declarations.

Montgomery County: Montgomery County Submitted a Disaster Declaration

DDC 16D – Rosenberg (Includes: Austin, Colorado, Fort Bend, Matagorda and Wharton Counties)

Wharton County: City of Wharton has submitted a Disaster Declaration.

Matagorda County: Matagorda has submitted a Disaster Declaration.

DDC 17- Victoria: (includes: Calhoun, Jackson and Victoria Counties)

Calhoun County: Point Comfort, Port Lavaca and Sea Drift have submitted Disaster Declarations

Jackson County: Jackson County has submitted a Disaster Declaration

Victoria County: Victoria County has submitted a Disaster Declaration

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

DDC 20 – Corpus Christi (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio and San Patricio Counties)

County/City EOC Levels - needs requests: All Counties and Cities have returned to pre-storm operations with a focus on rehab and recovery reduced from Level II to Level III.

Aransas County: EOC Level III Virtual- Submitted a Disaster Declaration

Bee: EOC Level II (Virtual after hours)

Beeville: EOC Level II (Virtual after hours)

Brooks: EOC Level II Virtual

Duval: EOC Level III-

Jim Wells: EOC Level III Virtual

Alice: EOC Level III

Orange Grove: EOC Level III

Kenedy: EOC Level III Virtual

Kingsville: EOC Level II-

Live Oak: EOC Level III Virtual

Nueces County: Nueces County submitted a Disaster Declaration.

Refugio County: [EOC Level II Virtual](#)Refugio County submitted a Disaster Declaration.

City of Refugio: EOC Level II Virtual

COG/MACC: [EOC Level II](#), Radio Test for PSAP radios conducted

San Patricio County: San Patricio County submitted a Disaster Declaration.

[DDC Support STAR Requests:](#) 20-256688- TMD- MDC Liaison

DDC 21 – Weslaco (Includes: Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy Counties)

Disaster District 21 Emergency Operations Center is activated to Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) (Virtual Activation) at 1200 hours on 09/12/2021 to support Incident 21-0018 Tropical Weather. Local jurisdictions proactive measures beginning today, September 12, 2021 at 1200 Hours.

DDEOC-21 Weslaco is currently monitoring and maintaining situational awareness with local jurisdictions and the National Weather Service Brownsville on the Tropical Weather forecast impacting the Lower Rio Grande Valley.

Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

DDC 17 – Victoria (Includes: Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Gonzales, Lavaca, Jackson and Victoria Counties)

Calhoun County: The cities of Point Comfort, Port Lavaca and Seadrift have submitted Disaster Declarations.

RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS

Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas A&M University System (TDEM): Due to the imminent threat to the state posed by Tropical Storm (TS) Nicholas, the Remote State Operations Center (SOC) will activate to Level II (Escalated Response) and will begin 24-hour response operations at 9:00 AM, Monday, 13 September 2021. Daily Operations staff are actively monitoring and reporting on the current situation preparing Snapshots and the State SITREPs. The State Management Team (SMT) continues conducting operations in the Remote SOC. Communications Coordination Group (CCG) has alerted our public, private, vendor and volunteer amateur radio partners. Amateur radio networks are being activated.

TDEM Communications Coordination Group (CCG): The Communications Coordination Group (CCG) is working with our public, private, vendor and volunteer partners to respond to possible communications outages caused by Tropical Storm Nicholas.

Mission Information and Details

- CCG partner agencies are conducting assessments of their various communications sectors. Currently there are no reports of major communications outages. The majority of PSAP / 9-1-1, Cellular and Public Safety networks are reporting minimal to no system degradation. Assets are staged and are prepared to conduct ground assessments once conditions become safe to do so.
- CCG has coordinated with FEMA Region 6 and the FCC, for post storm analysis of the broadcast RF spectrum and cellular networks. DHS / CISA has activated a SHARES HF net to support Texas EMCOMM operations.
- Amateur Radio operators have been monitoring various nets to include RACES, ARES, the 7290 net, as well as localized networks from the Rio Grande Valley, to throughout the Texas

Texas A&M AgriLife: The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service is standing ready with Disaster Assessment and Recovery Agent Strike Teams to support the Texas

Division of Emergency Management, TAMU VET, the Texas Animal Health Commission, Texas Department of Agriculture and local jurisdictions in Southeast Texas to provide assistance with animal issues response and with storm damage assessments. There are no known impact to livestock or pets at this time. We have received reports from County Extension Agents of wind damage to rice and cotton crops but have not yet assessed the impact on yields or on the second rice crop.

Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS): The Texas A&M Forest Service has three personnel assigned to the Remote State Operations Center to support ESF 4 Coordination. Additionally, TAMFS has three saw crews available for response. IMT Planning Modules in DDEOC 15, 16A, 16B, and 17 have been released. TAMFS Remote SOC personnel are monitoring possible requests of vegetative debris management in the recovery effort.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): TCEQ continues to monitor the situation and have staff on stand-by to respond to any drinking water/ wastewater and emergency response issues.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service, Texas Task Force 1 (TX-TF1): Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) deployed TX-TF1 personnel on September 13, 2021, at the request of TDEM for coastal flooding secondary to TS Nicholas. Texas Task Force 1 deployed (6) TX-TF1 Swiftwater Boat Squads and 2 Water Group Supervisors. Today, (3) additional Swiftwater Boat squads were deployed.

10 Helicopters 5 with hoist capability with 9 Helicopter Search and Rescue Technicians and a Manager.

The (9) boat squads (eighteen boats) and 2 Water Group Supervisors are standing by for TDEM SAR Missions request from local and county governments.

Overnight TX-TF1 responded to request for service in Matagorda. They rescued a man and his dog from a house that the roof had blown off and was surrounded by water. Shortly afterwards two adults were rescued from a trailer severely damaged by the storm.

Teams are positioned in the most flood prone areas and remain ready to assist. There have been no calls for service for the last 24 hours.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) is prepared to support emergency response activities for Hurricane/Tropical Storm Nicholas. DPS has aircraft and marine water rescue resources, including rotary aircraft with hoist capabilities and rescue swimmers,

available as needed. Troopers in all potential areas of concern are prepared for response as appropriate.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS): DSHS has five Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF) Severe Weather Packages on Standby in EMTF Regions 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 11.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): Provide safe roadways for the traveling public. Provide up to date travel information to the public. All TxDOT EOC'S have stood down 24-hour operations and have returned to normal operations. Currently there are 2 roadway sections impacted by flooding with 0 closures due to flooding.

Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HSSC): HHSC continues to monitor situation for state-owned hospitals and state supported living centers and regulated health care facilities. TDEM has requested that HHSC activate its water and ice contracts.

Texas Military Department (TMD): TMD has activated 261 personnel in support of 21-0018 Tropical Weather Response. TMD has 9 ground transportation platoons (high profile vehicles) with three ground transportation Company HQ's. TMD has an Air Operations Center with 5 Rotary Wing MRP. TMD has 5 Military District Coordinators

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD): Texas Parks and Wildlife Department has rostered and prepared department resources consisting of Texas Game Wardens and State Parks Police Officers equipped with swift water boats, shallow water boats, and a rescue helicopter to support boat rescue operations in areas affected by flooding due to the Tropical Weather Event.

Public Utility Commission of Texas: As of 0300 there were approximately 120,000 storm-related outages. The greatest affected counties remain Brazoria (27,000), Harris (24,000), Galveston (17,000), and Fort Bend (11,000). Restorations should increase in pace through the early morning hours as crews continue to assess damage and commit repairs

United States Coast Guard (USCG) The Coast Guard Captain of the Port in Corpus Christi set port condition X-Ray for the Port of Corpus Christi and all other terminals and facilities due to the expectation of sustained gale force winds generated by Tropical Storm Nicholas that may arrive within 48 hours.

Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)

American Red Cross (ARC)

Mass Care Sheltering Two congregate shelters remain open with no occupants; one shelter remains on standby.

Mass Care Feeding

Red Cross will utilize local vendors, shelf stable meals, snacks and water in Red Cross-managed shelters. Post impact, Red Cross will work with feeding partners to support shelter operations.

Mass Care Distribution of Emergency Supplies (DES)

No requests for Red Cross DES at this time.

Mass Care Reunification

No requests for Red Cross service at this time.

AMERICAN RED CROSS CONGREGATE SHELTERS OPEN OR STANDBY								
Site Name	Status	Agency	Address	City, State	County	Zip	Evac Cap (COVID)	Post-Impact Cap (COVID)
Orange Church of God, Embassy of Grace	Open	ARC	1911 N 16th St.	Orange, TX	Orange	77630	405	202
Orange County Expo	Standby	ARC	11475 FM 1442	Orange, TX	Orange	77630	389	194
First Baptist Church of Nederland	Open	ARC	1911 Nederland Ave	Nederland, TX	Jefferson	77627	271	135

STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equipment	Status	Location
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TAMFS	ESF 4 Coordinators	3		Assigned	Virtual
TAMFS	Saw Crews	3		Available	Statewide
TPWD	SOC Liaison	2	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	Game Wardens	43	43	Activated	Corpus Christi
TPWD	Game Wardens	50	50	Activated	Houston/Galveston
TPWD	State Park Police	12	12	Activated	Lake Livingston
TPWD	Game Warden SAR	16	8	Activated	Houston/ Corpus Christi
TPWD	Swift Boats/ Airboats		24	Activated	Houston/ Corpus Christi
TPWD	Helicopter	2	1	Activated	Austin
TPWD	UAS	4	4	Activated	Houston/ Corpus Christi
TMD	Air Operations Center	12		Assigned	Austin
TMD	AOC Command Trailer	7		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Rotary Wing MRP – Heavy	14	2	Assigned	Dallas
TMD	Rotary Wing MRP - Medium	28	4	Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	Rotary Wing MRP – Medium	14	2	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Rotary Wing MRP - Mix	14	2	Assigned	Austin
TMD	Rotary Wing MRP – Mix	14	2	Assigned	San Antonio
TMD	Task Force Storm HQ	10		Assigned	Austin
TMD	Battalion Mission Command	36	15	Assigned	Westminster
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon Headquarters	9	5	Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon Headquarters	8	3	Assigned	Victoria
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon Headquarters	6	3	Assigned	Galveston

TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	5	Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	4	Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	5	Assigned	San Antonio To Beaumont
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	11	5	Assigned	Galveston
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	11	3	Activated	Temple to Galveston
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	11	3	Activated	Temple to Galveston
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	14	4	Assigned	Beaumont
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	10	5	Assigned	Victoria
TMD	Ground Transportation Platoon	11	5	Assigned	Corpus Christi to Victoria
TX-TF1	ESF 9 SOC LO	2	0	Assigned	Austin
TX-TF1	Water Group Supervisor	4	0	Assigned	Beaumont
TX-TF1	6 Water Squads			Assigned	Liberty, Orange, Winnie, Galveston and Beaumont
TX-TF1	Water Group Supervisor	2	0	Assigned	Victoria
TX-TF1	WS-San Antonio	6		Assigned	Baytown
TX- TF1	WS-Killeen	6		Assigned	Brazoria County
TX-TF1	WS- Gainesville	6		Assigned	Orange
DPS	SOC Liason	1	0	Activated	Austin
DPS	Helicopters	15	5	Activated	Austin, Dallas, Edinburg, Houston, San Antonio

DPS	Float Boats	12	4	Activated	Port Lavaca, Texas City
DPS	Float Boats	18	6	Assigned	South and Southeast Texas
DPS	Hoist Rescue Swimmers	6	0	Activated	Austin, San Antonio, Houston
DPS	Troopers	500	500 (Patrol Vehicles)	Assigned	South and Southeast Texas
TxDOT	SOC liaison	3		Assigned	Austin
DSHS	Medical Incident Support Teams (MIST)	3	0	Assigned	Houston
DSHS	5x Severe Weather Packages	105	30	Activated	Houston
PUC	SOC Liaison	3	N/A	Assigned	Austin
HHSC	SOC Liaison	1	N/A	Assigned	Austin

FINAL COMMENTS The State Operations Center (SOC) is at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions). TDEM continues to monitor the situation and will continue to provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I	(Emergency Conditions)
Level II	(Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III	(Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV	(Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at:
<https://tdem.texas.gov/situation-reports/>

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